



Renfrew County and
District Health Unit

FACT SHEET

FLUZONE[®] HIGH-DOSE
(HIGH-DOSE TRIVALENT INACTIVATED
VACCINE)

≥ 65 YEARS OF AGE ONLY

What is the High-Dose Trivalent Inactivated Vaccine (High-Dose TIV)?

High-Dose TIV is a vaccine that is given by injection to help protect against influenza infection. This vaccine is **ONLY** publicly funded for individuals **≥ 65 years of age**. High-Dose TIV is a trivalent vaccine that protects against two influenza A viruses and one influenza B viruses.

What is the difference between High-Dose TIV and Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine (QIV)?

The High-Dose TIV contains three influenza strains, which have higher amounts of each strain than standard-dose influenza vaccine formulations. Studies have shown that the higher antigen content improves the immune response, and improves how well the vaccine works compared to standard dose TIV for those who are at higher risk. This is important since older individuals may not respond as well to influenza vaccine as younger individuals.

Which one should you receive?

To date, no studies have directly compared High-Dose TIV and QIV formulations.

High-Dose TIV provides better protection against vaccine strains compared to the standard dose TIV formulation. These strains have been associated with greater disease burden in individuals who are ≥65 years of age.

Are there side effects from High-Dose Trivalent Inactivated vaccine?

High-Dose TIV, like any medicine, can cause side effects, which in most cases are mild. Side effects after receiving the vaccine include redness, swelling, pain at the injection site, tiredness, weakness, headache, and fever.

Can the vaccine be given to individuals when they are ill?

High-dose TIV can be given to individuals with minor illnesses with or without fever (e.g., a cold). Those with a severe acute illness with or without fever should usually wait until the symptoms subside before being immunized.

Who should not get the High-Dose Trivalent Inactivated vaccine?

The following individuals should not get the vaccine:

- People who have had a serious allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to a previous dose or to any ingredient in the vaccine, with the exception of eggs.
- People who have developed Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) within six weeks of a previous influenza vaccination

Continued on reverse

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How well does the influenza vaccine protect against influenza?

Influenza viruses change constantly from one season to the next or they can even change within the course of one influenza season. The influenza vaccine is guided by surveillance and research which helps to indicate which strains will be the most common during the season as recommended by the World Health Organization. It takes about two weeks following immunization to develop protection against influenza. As protection wanes over time and virus strains change frequently, it is important to be immunized each season. The vaccine will not protect against colds and other respiratory illnesses that may be mistaken for influenza.

Can the vaccine cause influenza?

The high-dose TIV contains inactivated influenza virus so individuals cannot get influenza from the vaccine.

When should I call my health care provider?

Call your health care provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency department if any of the following symptoms develop within 3 days of getting the vaccine:

- hives
- swelling of the face or mouth
- trouble breathing
- high fever (over 40°C or 104°F)
- convulsions or seizures

Who should I talk to if I have any questions?

Talk to your health care provider or call Renfrew County and District Health Unit immunization intake line at: **613-735-8666 or 1-800-267-1097 Ext. 666.**

How do I keep track of this vaccination?

After you get any vaccination, make sure your personal immunization record, such as your "Yellow Card", is updated. Keep it in a safe place.

To contact us or for more information	
	613-735-8653 or 1-800-267-1097
	www.rcdhu.com Healthy Living Immunization
	7 International Dr, Pembroke, ON K8A 6W5
	 @RCDHealthunit

Source: Adapted from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

2019/2020 Universal Influenza Immunization Program Health Care Provider Q&A: Information for individuals ≥65 years of age. September 2019

2019/2020 Universal Influenza Immunization Program Health Care Provider Q & A: General information; September 2019

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